

You may see us on the Green River this week!

Monday – Tuesday, May 13-14, 2013



Brian Colleran, Vermont's Invasive Species Biologist



A Vermont Youth Conservation Corps Crew

Each year, the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps hires young people ages 16-24 to work and study together under adult leadership on high-priority conservation projects such as state park management, trail maintenance, and backcountry construction.

This week, a VYCC crew will be working for 2 days on the Green River under the direction of Brian Colleran, Vermont's Invasive Species Biologist for the Department of Fish & Wildlife. The crew will be surveying properties along the river that have new knotweed populations established as a result of Tropical Storm Irene. They will also be removing any plants that are still young enough to dig up by hand.

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is legally classified as a Class B Noxious Weed in the State of Vermont. It can establish and grow from relatively small pieces of stem or root that break off from the parent plant during high water events. Established stands can increase both soil erosion and severity of floods, as well as significantly reduce ecological diversity. These impacts threaten the natural integrity of Vermont's rivers and leave them vulnerable to future flood events.

If you see the VYCC crew at work, please stop to say hello and ask any questions you may have about their work.

For more information, please contact:

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